



GAITHERSBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT
POLICE CADET FEBRUARY REPORT

PURPOSE OF THE CADET PROGRAM

The Gaithersburg Police Cadet Program was created for college students who have an interest in pursuing a career with the Gaithersburg Police Department. The Police Cadet Program serves to identify and select qualified individuals contemplating a career in the field of law enforcement and provide them with career orientation and first-hand experience to better prepare them to be a Gaithersburg Police Officer when they reach the minimum requirements for that position.

Cadets will perform a variety of hands-on administrative, technical, and other tasks supporting the functions, services, and operations of the Gaithersburg Police Department while gaining insight and awareness into a law enforcement career and various phases of law enforcement. Cadets have an opportunity to work directly with, assist, and observe sworn and civilian personnel to experience the challenges and personal rewards of a police career.

Candidates should exhibit good character, sound judgment, honesty, reliability, and integrity that blend together with a philosophy for community-oriented policing, and a strong desire to serve the citizens of Gaithersburg.

The goal of this monthly report is to provide a summary of the various activities, classes, crime prevention efforts and community collaborations which the cadets have taken part in.

QUALIFICATIONS TO BE A POLICE CADET

- Be at least 18 years old (at time of hire).
- Have the ability to lawfully become employed in the United States.
- Possess a valid driver's license and have a good overall driving record.
- Be in excellent physical and mental condition, as determined by comprehensive examinations.
- Have graduated from an accredited high school, or possess a high school diploma recognized by the Maryland Department of Education or a General Equivalency Diploma.
- Be of good moral character, with no felony convictions or misdemeanor convictions for which a sentence of imprisonment for one year or more could have been imposed.
- Not be a current user of illegal drugs.
- Pass a comprehensive background check.
- Be attending or will attend (as soon as eligible) an accredited community college, college, or university in an area that will prepare them for a law enforcement career- classes are not limited to criminal justice programs.
- Be able to work evenings, weekends and holidays, as needed.

ABOUT THE JOB

- Cadets are paid \$15 an hour.
- Cadets may work up to 20 hours per week (evening, weekend, and holiday work may be required).
- Cadets are eligible for up to \$3,500 in tuition reimbursement per year of police cadet employment. Reimbursement will occur after successful completion of the Gaithersburg Police Department Police Officer Field Training Program.

Assignments

General assignments such as data entry, projects, research papers and assigned readings allow cadets the opportunity to assist with the needs of the department.

During the past month, cadets continued to work on creating new fliers about community services and recruiting to be used for social media, as well as completed their plan for responding to missing children complaints during special events.

Detail Assignments

Detail assignments allow cadets the opportunity to become familiar with the daily operations and functions of the police department. Cadets are assigned to details that allow them to participate and engage with the community at events such as National Night Out, Water Safety Day, community block parties, and Oktoberfest to name a few.

During the past month, cadets assisted with the Vaccine Pods at the Public Safety Training Academy.

Duty Assignment

Duty assignments allow cadets the opportunity to become familiar with the daily operations and functions of not only the police department, but other City departments such as Neighborhood Services, Animal Control and Permitting and Planning.

Due to COVID-19 all duty assignments have been suspended.

Ride-Alongs

Ride-alongs are an educational part of the cadet program and gives the police cadet a better understanding of patrol functions. Cadets participate in ride-alongs with other agencies and departments within the City, such as the Montgomery County Fire and Rescue Services, Neighborhood Services, the Emergency Communications Center, Parking Enforcement, Speed Camera, and Towing.

Training

Training of police cadets falls under the responsibility of the Community Services Office. Police cadets attend a two-week training academy in August and continue to receive training throughout their time as a police cadet.

During the past month, cadets received the following blocks of instruction:

- Scenario based-training on radio communications, first aid, traffic stops and field interviews.

Field Trips

Field trips are designed to be educational, build relationships, and gain skills that go beyond reading about a concept; police cadets can acquire tangible benefits.

No field trips this month.

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

As part of a joint program with the Montgomery County Police Cadet Program, since January 2021, Montgomery County Police Cadet Espinoza has been assigned to the Gaithersburg Police Community Services Office to learn about the department.